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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**25 JULY 2018**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Los Angeles – Representative Waters Office Evacuated After Alleged Anthrax Threat**

(U) Authorities evacuated US Representative Maxine Waters' district office in South Los Angeles yesterday after someone noticed a suspicious package that was addressed to "Anne Thrax," officials said. Hazardous materials crews rendered the package safe, but the Los Angeles Police Department's Major Crimes Division launched an investigation, said department spokesman Officer Mike Lopez. One person came into contact with the package but did not have any medical complaints.

SOURCE: 24 July 2018, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) Sacramento – Large Scale Marijuana Farm Found In Flyover

(U) Around 1,400 marijuana plants were found after members of the Butte County Sheriff's Office Special Enforcement Unit served a search warrant at a residential area in Oroville on 23 July. In addition to the plants, the special enforcement unit found 16 pounds of processed marijuana. A harmful fertilizer called Carbofuran, which is banned in the United States due to its toxicity levels, was found on the property and had to be removed by a hazardous materials team. Three men were found inside the home, according to the news release — Beatriz Farias-Hernandez, 33, Ascari Farias-Aparicio, 44, both of Michoacan, Mexico; and Custodio Quiroz, 35. Another man — Agustin Cortez-Lopez, 41, of Mexico — was found in a camp outside.

SOURCE: 24 July 2018, [The Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) District of Columbia – US, Australia Work to Improve Cyber Capabilities**

(U) Washington – The United States and Australia have signed an agreement that will enable the two allies to conduct research and development to advance their combined cyber capabilities, officials said yesterday. US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said the two countries had signed a memorandum of understanding "to deepen cybersecurity cooperation." The move comes amid ongoing hacking thefts of sensitive information from military networks, and Russia's continued attempts to subvert democracy in America and elsewhere.

SOURCE: 25 July 2018, [AFP](#)

(U) Michigan – American Captured in Syria Charged In US with Supporting ISIS

(U) Detroit – A Michigan man arrested overseas by a US-backed Syrian militia has been charged with providing material support to ISIS militants, the US Justice Department said yesterday. Ibraheem Izzy Musaibli, 28, of Dearborn, Michigan, provided support to the group from 2015 until last month, the department said in a statement. Musaibli, a natural-born US citizen, will be arraigned in federal court in Detroit today. US prosecutors in Indiana said Musaibli was transferred from the custody of the Syrian Democratic Forces along with a US woman, Samantha Elhassani, who has been charged with making false statements to the FBI.

SOURCE: 24 July 2018, [Reuters](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Pakistan – Blast Kills At Least 20 near Polling Station**

(U) Quetta – A blast targeting a police van killed more than 20 people in Pakistan's northwestern city of Quetta today, a hospital spokesman said, as the South Asian nation goes to the vote to choose a new government. The blast happened near a polling station, said a witness in Quetta, capital of Pakistan's province of Baluchistan, but it was unclear if voting had been disrupted. Samaa TV, which put the death toll at 20, said a "suicide attacker" was responsible for the attack.

SOURCE: 24 July 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Syria – ISIS Kills About 100 People In Series of Attacks

(U) As-Suwayda – ISIS militants killed about 100 people in a series of attacks on government-held parts of southwestern Syria today, including multiple suicide blasts in As-Suwayda, the jihadist group and official sources said. The coordinated attacks were the deadliest to hit government territory in many months. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitoring group, said 156 people were killed. ISIS said in a statement that it had killed more than 100 people in the attacks.

SOURCE: 24 July 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Syria – Coalition Says It Killed ISIS Members Targeting Saudi Arabia, West

(U) Damascus – The US-led coalition fighting ISIS reported yesterday it has killed high-value leaders from the group who were planning attacks targeting Saudi Arabia, the United States and Sweden. On 24 April, a coalition air strike killed Syrian-based ISIS member Munawwar al-Mutayari in Operation Inherent Resolve, the coalition said in a statement. He had been planning attacks on Saudi Arabia. Soufiane Makouh, a Belgian foreign fighter who traveled to Syria to plan attacks against the United States and its interests, was killed by an airstrike on 2 June. The coalition said that on 12 June, an airstrike killed Simak, identified as an ISIS intelligence officer linked to a cell plotting attacks in Sweden.

SOURCE: 24 July 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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